

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 171

By Hood

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Bill Derrick upon his induction into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those citizens who, through unwavering dedication and unflagging commitment to excellence, have distinguished themselves as leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Bill Derrick, who has devoted thirty-six years to the education and instruction of high school students and athletes; on March 19, 2005, Coach Derrick will be inducted into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Hall of Fame, a most befitting recognition of his outstanding service to Tennessee high school athletics; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable man's career began in 1959 at Father Ryan High School in where he served as Head Basketball Coach until 1969. During this tenure, he led the basketball team to a Region Championship in 1965 and guided them to a TSSAA State Tournament Appearance in 1965; his overall won-loss record was an impressive 198-67; and

WHEREAS, while at Father Ryan High School, Coach Derrick also served as the Head Football Coach from 1976-1983. With a won-loss record of 69-19, he led the team to three State Playoff berths and three Bowl Games; and

WHEREAS, preserving a spot in history, Mr. Bill Derrick's Father Ryan Fighting Irish basketball squad was the Nashville Interscholastic League's first integrated team in 1963; and

WHEREAS, from 1984-1987, Coach Derrick served as Head Football Coach at Lawrence County High School, during which time, the team was 1986 District Co-Champion in 1986 and qualified for the State Playoffs; and

WHEREAS, Coach Derrick then moved on to serve as Head Football Coach at Hendersonville High School from 1987 to 1995, leading his team to the 1988 State Championship Semi-Finals; and

WHEREAS, Coach Derrick, a man who always strives for excellence, will be long remembered for leading three different schools to the playoffs and the outstanding rebuilding efforts he successfully undertook; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Derrick's dedication and commitment to high school athletics did not diminish with his retirement from teaching in 1995; since retirement, Bill Derrick has continued to remain active in Tennessee athletics, assisting in coaching at Battle Ground Academy, Father Ryan, St. Bernard's Prep, Lawrence County High School, and William James Middle School; and

WHEREAS, the significance of Mr. Derrick's impact cannot be adequately measured by winning seasons alone; his positive impact on the lives of his students, athletes, fellow teachers, and administrators still resounds in the community today; and

WHEREAS, throughout his illustrious career, Bill Derrick has been supported by his loving wife, Connie, and his wonderful children Matt, Mary, Ann, Theresa, Margaret, Joan, John, and Ruth; and

WHEREAS, for the above and many other accomplishments, his impeccable moral standards, and impressive work ethic, Coach Derrick has been selected for induction into the TSSAA Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bill Derrick, is a man of true character and commitment, and he exemplifies the type of selfless community servant and civic leader whom fellow Tennesseans admire for their tireless efforts to mould the State's youth, guiding them with solid principles and high standards whether on the athletic fields or in the classroom; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join the family and friends of Coach Bill Derrick in congratulating him upon his induction into in the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame,

honor and commend Coach Derrick for his substantial legacy as a teacher and coach, and offer our thanks for the dedication which he has shown our State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.